

ALUMNI Newsletter

• JOURNALISM •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2008



Senior's secret identity

uncovered

Shane Lewis never really expected to have a beak and feathers, yet the senior knew he wanted to.

Lewis, a public relations major, was one of two men and two women to don the costumes of Freddie and Frieda Falcon at sports events and campus activities throughout the year.

He said he wanted to show his appreciation for the university, so he turned in an application and eventually auditioned for the part without hesitating.

"BG has completely changed who I am," Lewis said. "I really saw Freddie and Frieda as the epitome of school spirit."

Even though he was excited, he was also fairly nervous. That was especially true when he made a child cry the first time he wore the suit at the audition. Luckily, he said, he apparently handled it well enough that the judges didn't hold it against him.

Lewis said the most difficult and stressful aspect of his new role was keeping it all a secret – a tradition for those who play the beaked mascots.

Lewis' favorite appearances were the smaller activities on campus, like a regional grade school chess tournament held in the Union in March. People did not expect Freddie to make an appearance and were more excited to see him.

Lewis said he would encourage anyone who is interested to apply for the part of Freddie or Frieda.

"Be prepared to lie," Lewis said. "Be prepared to get the best workout you'll ever get. Be prepared to have fun."

by Barrett Dorner '09

At the women's basketball game on Feb. 9, Shane Lewis is beheaded by his best friend Steve Dutton. The tradition is to keep the mascot's identity a secret and then reveal it at the end of the season. Lewis is a public relations major.

photo by Terri Melton

INSIDE

Bob Moser
travels to
Brazil

Welcome
Seth Oyer
to BGSU

JOUR 100
gets a
makeover

school of
communication
studies

Board seeks to involve other alumni in mentor project

The Journalism Alumni Advisory Board is developing new ways to link students and journalism professionals to provide career insights and connections to help BGSU graduates get a leg up on the competition.

"Bowling Green has many outstanding graduates working in companies big and small across the country," said alumni board member

Ben Marrison, editor of the Columbus Dispatch. "Our goal is to connect students at BG with the alums who are contributing so greatly to their professions. We want to make that connection readily accessible and convenient for students and alums."

A mentoring program is being established to give juniors and seniors the chance to work one-on-one with

a professional in print, broadcast or public relations. Mentors can help students prepare for job interviews, provide informal feedback for work on class projects and provide job-shadowing experiences.

The mentoring program is also intended to provide students with a network of contacts who can provide

see ALUMNI BOARD, Page 3

Year brings faculty changes

Dear Journalism Alumni:

The 2007-2008 academic year has been full of ups, and unfortunately, a few downs for the journalism faculty, staff and students.

This March, our former colleague and good friend, Dennis Hale, died. He taught at BGSU from 1980 until his retirement three years ago. He then followed his wife, Donna, to Illinois where she took a teaching position at Southern Illinois University. While at BGSU, Dennis was one of the leading scholars in the country in communication law. He was a truly gifted scholar and one of the nicest people you could have the pleasure to call colleague.

If you would like to share your condolences and/or your memories with family and friends, you can post your message on <http://rememberingdennis.wordpress.com/>. I'm sure his family would be comforted in hearing from you.

We are starting a Dr. Dennis Hale Memorial Scholarship to be given to a student who is interested in working in print, communication law

or photography. If you are interested in giving, please use the contribution form on the back of this newsletter and check the Dr. Dennis Hale Memorial Scholarship line.

Also on a sad note, Melissa Spirek will be leaving us to take on the position of chair of the department of communication at Wright State University. Dr. Spirek is head of our print sequence. She has served as mentor to many of our students and has given so much to this department. We will miss her smile and her laugh that fills the third floor of West Hall.

On a much happier note, we will be welcoming Seth Oyer to the department next fall. Seth is completing his doctorate at the University of Florida, one of the top graduate programs in public relations. His research interest is in crisis communication, and he will teach this and other public relations courses at BGSU.

Once again, I want to encourage you to become an alumni mentor. Whether you've been out of college for one year or 50 years,

get online

To sign up to be an alumni mentor, please visit us online at:

scs.bgsu.edu/journalism/mentor

your expertise and guidance are so valuable to our students. Students are paired with alumni when they declare their sequence – broadcast, print or public relations – once they reach major status, usually during their sophomore year.

There are no formal guidelines, but when you sign up I offer a few suggestions on how you may want to mentor your student through graduation. Sign up at scs.bgsu.edu/journalism/mentor. The form will take you less than five minutes to complete. Please consider giving back to your program by becoming a mentor. We all have something valuable to offer our students.

Like you, we are also feeling the pinch of rising costs. As a result, we will be moving toward an on-line newsletter within the next year

see RENTNER, Page 3

ALUMNI Newsletter

• JOURNALISM •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2008

Oliver Boyd-Barrett
PUBLISHER

Kelly Taylor
EDITOR

Aaron Balusik '09
Whitney Billups '08
Caterina Guinta '08
Nathan Harrell '09
Kelsey Hilborn '09
Jessica Honigford '08
Kelly Hughes '08
Bailey Jordan '09
Ryan MacBride '09
Kristen Mooney '08

Eric Reed '09
Jennifer Savidge '08
Matt Schoolcraft '08
William Scott '09
Bethany Simpson '09
Mandy Thomas '09
Rachel Wade '09
Lori Weber '08
Megan Yodzis '09
Andrew Zelinsky '08

DESIGN STAFF

The Alumni Newsletter is an annual publication of the Department of Journalism and is mailed free to all graduates of the program. Its purpose is to keep everyone informed about happenings, achievements and other news of department faculty, students and alumni. If you have news, questions or comments, write us at the address below.

School of Communication Studies 419.372.8349
Department of Journalism 419.372.0202 FAX
Bowling Green State University www.bgsu.edu/departments/journalism/
302 West Hall
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

**school of communication
studies**

Former NFL broadcasting director chosen for Kappa Tau Hall of Fame

A communications professional for the National Football League is the newest inductee to BGSU's Kappa Tau Alpha Journalism Hall of Fame.

Richard Maxwell, a 1970 journalism graduate, retired as Senior Director of Broadcasting after spending 35 years with the NFL.

Maxwell started with the Denver Broncos in 1971 as Assistant Director of Public Relations. In 1976, he joined the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, as the team's first Public Relations Director.

He joined the NFL in 1978 as Director of Information, NFC, and continued to work for the organization in varying communication roles until his retirement in 2006.

During his tenure with the NFL, he worked 33 Super Bowls, numerous Hall of Fame games, AFC-NFC Pro Bowls and American Bowls.

Maxwell still serves as a broadcasting consultant for the NFL and is the current President of the Let There Be Light Foundation in Butler, N.J.

"The journalism faculty unanimously supported Maxwell's nomination," said Terry Rentner, department chair. "His distinguished career and commitment to the public relations and broadcast fields have been, and continue to be, very impressive. We are proud to present him with our most prestigious award."

RENTNER, from Page 2

or two to cut down on the enormous cost of producing and mailing this newsletter to over 3,000 alumni.

Please help us make this transition by sending us your contact information on the journalism alumni page at bgsu.edu/departments/journalism/alumni.html. Click on the alumni page and share your e-mail address with us. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please either e-mail me or send me a note indicating your preference. Please send it to: Alumni Newsletter, Attn: Dr. Terry L. Rentner, Department of Journalism, 302 West Hall, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43403 or e-mail me at trentne@bgsu.edu.

I am pleased and proud to share with you "The Winners' Circle," a report on the honors and awards our department bestowed upon journalism majors this spring. The listing of recipients offers a window on the high quality and wide-ranging interests of our students.

I hope that once you read about these students, you'll consider adding to a journalism scholarship or creating a new scholarship.

Most of our majors, in addition to being full-time students, work 10-20 hours a week and will graduate with more than \$20,000 in student loans.

That doesn't include credit card debt. It doesn't matter how big or small your gift - there will be a journalism major who will be so grateful to you.

In recent years, some of our alums have developed scholarships under \$500 within the first five years after they graduated. You may name the scholarship and select the criteria. For example, one alumna created a book scholarship (and her company matched her donation) that was earmarked for a public relations student. A student's scholarship award monies are always deposited into the student's BGSU account to be used toward tuition, room and board, or the bookstore.

Use the form on the back of this newsletter to add to a scholarship. If you are interested in creating a scholarship, please contact me.

By now, you're probably feeling like you're back in school with all of the "assignments" I've listed above. But, alumni relations are extremely important to us, and I encourage you to be involved. And, if you're ever in the neighborhood, please let me know and I would enjoy having you speak in one of our classes.

Best,

Terry L. Rentner, Chair
Department of Journalism

Department honors young professional

This year's Currier Young Professional honoree was Melissa Maggiotto Wall, a 1999 graduate.

She has held positions of progressive responsibility in educational institutions, and medical centers and is now a Major Gifts Officer at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.



wall

Her experience includes coordinating or participating in the quiet or public phases of five capital campaigns, soliciting and closing gift commitments, leading strategic teams and training and managing high-level volunteers.

ALUMNI BOARD, from Page 1

opportunities for freelance work, internships and possible employment.

"If I mentor a student who has tremendous talent, I'll be looking to bring that person in as an intern - or more," Marrison said. "And although we work in different sectors, I know many public relations professionals who are always looking for strong graduates or interns."

Save the Date

The Alumni Board is also planning an event for mentors and students during homecoming weekend on Friday, Oct. 3. Make plans to stay overnight on Friday and join alumni from The BG News, BG-24 News and other student media organizations at a tailgate party before the homecoming football game on Saturday, Oct. 4.

During its meeting in April, the board elected Mizell Stewart III, editor of the Evansville (Ind.) Courier & Press as its new president and Kim Fatica, operations director of WKYC-TV (Channel 3) in Cleveland, as vice-president. Two new members also joined the board: Melissa Wall (*see above*) and Marie Dunn-Harris, executive producer at WTOL-TV (Channel 11) in Toledo, Ohio.



Travelin' Man

Former BG News Editor sweetens up to Brazil

Bob Moser, 2006 graduate, traveled to Sao Paulo, Brazil, as part of a World Affairs Fellowship, sponsored by the International Center for Journalists.

Moser went to Brazil to report on the country's sugar cane ethanol industry.

"I knew that after a day there, I wanted to be somewhere where they take advantage of all they have," he said.

Since September 2006, Moser has worked for the Daily Advertiser, in Lafayette, LA.

A co-worker told Moser about the fellowship and planted the idea of doing something with agriculture. Moser needed only to look to his own surroundings to find the perfect topic.

That topic would be Louisiana's top crop, sugar cane, which has taken a hit due to recent hurricanes and cheap refined sugar imports from Mexico. To keep the industry viable, energy companies are opening ethanol plants that will turn sugar cane into ethanol fuel.

Brazil was the natural choice for an international reporting locale. The country has been producing sugar cane ethanol on a wide-spread basis since the 1970s.

Moser took about a week to develop his proposal and submit it. By early April 2007 Moser knew how he was going to spend the next few

see MOSER, Page 15

Photo provided by Bob Moser

Whitmire enjoys quick rise to the top

Unexpected events have a knack for changing our lives and taking us to places that we would not otherwise have imagined.

That was the case for Douglas Whitmire, executive producer with WLS-7, Chicago's ABC television affiliate.

"I happened upon my career by accident really," Whitmire said.

Whitmire injured his knee playing basketball during his junior year of high school. While recovering, he provided color commentary on sports broadcasts for a local radio station.

"I fell in love with radio right away," Whitmire said.

He continued to provide commentary for high school sports when he returned to the basketball court as

a senior. That volunteer work led to work at WFOB-AM in Fostoria while Whitmire was a freshman at BGSU.

Whitmire continued to work at WFOB for a year and a half.

His work included time as a fill-in news anchor for Dave Horger, whom Whitmire referred to as a Bowling Green radio legend. "I had grown up listening to him in the mornings, now I was filling in for him," Whitmire said.

Associate Professor Catherine Casara-Jemai, who was Whitmire's instructor for Journalism 100, his first journalism class, said, "He would not let anything deflect him from his career."

After his stint at WFOB, Whitmire decided to try television. At the beginning of his junior year, he checked out

BG-24 News, the student-run television news organization.

"It was on my first day there that I knew TV is what I wanted to do," Whitmire said.

Whitmire said that BG-24 allowed him to try every position. "Eventually, I would anchor and be news director of the organization," Whitmire said. "The experience got me my first job at a real TV station."

Whitmire earned that position at WTVG-13, the ABC affiliate in Toledo. He started as a weekend producer.

"That was one of the things that made him special," Associate Professor Jim Foust said. "He was already doing stuff off-campus while he was a student."

see WHITMIRE, Page 5

Fatica owes success to dedicated instructor who led with discipline

Frantic men and women are scurrying up and down the street clutching photographs in their hands. Shards of glass and large pieces of building materials cover the sidewalk. Hundreds of news reporters and camera crews scatter the streets like ants. All that can be heard are sobs and sirens.

This is the horrific scene Kim Fatica, director of news operations for 19 Action News, found himself working in April 1995 while covering the Oklahoma City bombing. The experience was one that Fatica found startling and one of the many incidents that he has never forgotten in over 20 years in the field of journalism.

"On a lark, I had signed up for Introduction to Photojournalism with one of my friends who thought it would be cool to, 'learn how to take pictures,'" Fatica said.

Fatica found himself in a class that many had warned him against taking. Rumor was that the professor was terribly difficult, and passing with a decent grade was a rare occurrence.

Enter James Gordon.

"Professor Jim Gordon was that tough cookie that inspired me," Fatica said. "I passed that introductory course easily, but swallowed the pill of harsh criticisms every Monday. That's when



kim
fatica

1983 graduate,
operations director
at WKYC-TV &
10-time Emmy
Award winner

professor Gordon would put our weekly assignments in front of the class and rip them in front of everyone."

Although Gordon was intimidating, Fatica said he found the class fascinating and with the encouragement of Gordon he began working on News Photograph magazine and running the photo lab on campus.

"Professor James Gordon was the person that essentially rescued me from wallowing in uncertainty and pointed me in the right direction with his discipline and caring," Fatica said.

That right direction lead Fatica to work as a photo editor for The Gavel in 1983. When he graduated from BGSU, he began his first full-time job as a videographer-editor for WWAY in Wilmington, N.C., and according to Fatica, it was all thanks to that one great professor.

"I don't deserve that kind of credit," Gordon said. "Kim made himself. He

has such energy and enthusiasm for his work which is something you don't find every day."

Fatica oversees 31 video editors and photojournalists, provides other stations with live video for major events and runs a helicopter ENG program in which he shoots video and covers live events.

Denise Dufala, current news anchor and long-time coworker of Fatica, said the workplace would not be the same without him.

"Kim's work ethic is impeccable," Dufala said. "He always gives 200 percent on the job, just like he does in every aspect of his life. You know if Kim is taking care of something, it's done."

Fatica has written about theft, like the rise of stolen ENG cameras all over the U.S.; tragedies, like the shooting of Toledo Police Detective Keith Dressel; and has taken photographs of events such as the Pope's visit to St. Louis.

His video on Aaron Costic, world champion ice carver from Broadview Heights, Ohio, won two Emmy awards and an AP award for Best Videography. He was also awarded the last Photojournalistic Enterprise Emmy in the region.

by Sara Hanna, '09

WHITMIRE, from Page 4

Whitmire continued as weekend producer until he graduated in 2001, working four years for WTVG as a producer and reporter.

Neither Cassara-Jemai nor Foust are surprised by the fast track that Whitmire's career has taken. "He learns all the time," Cassara-Jemai said. "He picks up things at each stage of his career."

"He's smart and an excellent writer," Foust said. "He loves the business and loves the idea of being a broadcast journalist."

Whitmire started at WLS-7 Chicago as a fill-in writer and producer. He

bounced between station newscasts and filled in as producer when regulars had time off.

During this period, Whitmire produced a story about a Southwest Airlines jet that skidded off the runway at Chicago's Midway Airport. This story won a regional 2006 Emmy.

The Emmy was for Outstanding Achievement Within a Regularly Scheduled News Program (Spot Coverage and Breaking News).

"It is a great honor to win such a prestigious award," Whitmire said. "However, so often we are recognized for work we do covering tragedies.

"A young boy from Indiana died

when the plane skidded off the runway and hit his family's car. I feel it's best to put things in perspective."

In January, Whitmire was promoted to executive producer of WLS's morning show.

"As far as future aspirations go, I try not to worry about the future," Whitmire said. "I never have, and things have worked out pretty well."

by Matthew Daley, '08

get online

To sign up to be an alumni mentor, please visit us online at:

scs.bgsu.edu/journalism/mentor

A whirlwind of IN-SPA-RATION

Graduate flourishes as editor-in-chief of American Spa

The perseverance and enthusiasm of Julie Keller, current editor-in-chief of American Spa magazine, helped her climb the ladder of success.

The 31-year-old editor and 1998 graduate said she reached her position at American Spa in 2005 as a direct result of hard work and persistence.

"I'm a good writer and editor," Keller said. "I work well with people."

Nancy Brendlinger, Keller's undergraduate academic adviser, recalled her first impression of Keller. "She was full of energy and really smart," Brendlinger said. "She knew what her strengths were."

Brendlinger said even as an undergraduate, Keller was confident, optimistic and ready to step up.

"I try to stay pretty positive," Keller said. "It's been truly empowering to lead such a talented team and watch our hard work pay off."

Vern Henry, corporate editorial director of Advanstar Communications and an alumnus, was Keller's mentor while she attended BGSU.

Henry said it was Keller's curiosity and engaging personality that prompted his interest in her work.

"She had an idea of what she wanted to do and she pursued it," he said.

Henry said he was also impressed with Keller's extensive array of clips and portfolio.

"She really had her luggage on the bus," he said.

After graduation, her career was set into a whirlwind of motion.

"After I graduated, I went to Los Angeles for a year to work as an assistant editor at U., the national college magazine," Keller said.

Between 1999 and 2003, Keller held several positions, including freelance entertainment news writer for E! Online and editor-in-chief of Art Business News in New York City.

In June 2003, she started Keller Art Services in New York, which provides copywriting and public services to artists, galleries and art publishers.

Now, as editor-in-chief of American Spa, she's a finalist in the Neal Awards for Best Single Issue.

Keller said with the hard work and talent of her editorial team, the magazine has gone from being a dry business publication to a beautiful, award-winning magazine.

"American Spa has been wonderful," Keller said.

As the editor, Keller often works 60- to 70-hour weeks managing budgets, interviewing and reading.

All of this can make for an exhausting career, but ultimately, it boils down to her deep passion for writing.

"In the end, the reason I went into journalism is that I love to write," she said. "While I do have a lot of managerial and editing responsibilities, I get the opportunity to write quite a bit."

And whether she is traveling or attending trade shows, Keller said she is satisfied with her place in life.

"I've been really fortunate in my career and life and have been able to see and do some amazing things, all of which I'm quite grateful for," she said.

by Sarah Orosz, '09

Alumna launches news anchoring career at WTOL

Broadcast journalism alumna Colleen Wells, 24, was recently promoted to co-host WTOL-TV's weekend news program, allowing her to display her love for broadcast journalism every weekend.

"Some days I am living the dream," Wells said.

Wells' vivacious and cheerful personality seeps through the show, Tim Miller, Wells' cohort, said.

"I think viewers look forward to how she will react to a magician, an animal, a chef — any of the interesting characters we have on the show," he said.

Wells began working with WTOL a week after her May 2006 graduation, but her prior experience played a major role in her career advancement.

As an undergraduate, she was employed at WLIO in Lima as a sports reporter.

And WLIO is precisely where Wells said she realized broadcast journalism was the career she wanted to pursue.

"It was something about being at the place everyone is talking about," she said. "It's almost like a front-row seat to history."

Kathy Bradshaw, a broadcast journalism professor, speaks highly of her former student. "Colleen has so much talent, she can do anything that she wants to," Bradshaw said.

And Wells plans to take this talent as far as she can. Eventually, she said, her dream is to work as a White House correspondent. But for now, she's dedicated to WTOL and the Toledo area.

One of the ways she shows this dedication is by reading to kindergartners in Toledo.

"When I'm 40, I hope to be a positive member of the community and be actively involved in giving back," Wells said.

by Zach Pflieger, '09



Julie
Keller

1988 graduate;
editor-in-chief of
American Spa
magazine

New PR professor

Oyer set to share expertise in crisis communication

Seth Oyer, a recent graduate from the University of Florida, is set to start in the fall as a new public relations professor.

"Oyer's depth of experience working in the field as well as his academic training and research in the field were very impressive," said Victoria Ekstrand, a assistant professor and member of the search committee. Ekstrand also noted that UF is one of the top-rated schools for turning out public relations professors.

Oyer's professional experience includes his own consulting agency, Clean Fan Communication, which specializes in crisis public relations planning for businesses.

"The name comes from the idea that when businesses utilize this service, crises are prevented and

'nothing hits the fan,'" Oyer said.

Oyer majored in English and communications at SUNY Fredonia in New York. He earned a master's degree in mass communication at the University of Central Florida. This spring, Oyer earned a doctorate in public relations, specializing in corporate crisis management.

Oyer's interest in teaching began during his graduate work at UCF.

"I found that I was able to implement my professional experience into the classroom, and that I could offer a lot of practical knowledge to help students learn about and understand their future jobs," Oyer said.

Spiro Kiouis, chair of the department of public relations at UCF, said, "Seth is an exceptional teacher. I attribute much of his success in the classroom to his focus on being student-centered and making sure they learn in an interactive and collaborative environment."

In March, Oyer won his department's award for outstanding

graduate teaching.

Oyer applied for the public relations position after meeting with three BGSU faculty members at an Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication job fair. "I was very impressed with BGSU," Oyer said.

Despite receiving offers from other schools, Oyer chose to accept the position at BGSU.

"Everything I encountered and heard about BGSU was positive," Oyer said.

And having grown up near Buffalo, N.Y., where he still has family, Oyer said he is looking forward to coming back north.

This eagerness is reciprocated among the journalism faculty.

"There is a lot of excitement about his contributions to our department," Ekstrand said. "He has great energy and enthusiasm, and we believe he will have a great deal of influence on his students."

by Brianna Votaw, '10



seth
oyer

owner of Clean Fan
Communication, a
crisis public relations
planning business

Ekstrand first journalist to win scholar honors

Victoria Ekstrand came to her Journalism 100 class on Oct. 31 full of excitement.

Less than 10 minutes earlier, Ekstrand had been informed that she won the BGSU Outstanding Young Scholars Award.

The award was granted for the extensive research on Internet piracy and copyright law she's done in her five years at BGSU.

The main focus of her research is how writers and corporations shut down the creative process by controlling the reuse of content.

Department Chair Terry Rentner nominated Ekstrand for the award last year.

"I nominated her because her research is on the cutting edge," Rentner said. "I think soon we will see her as the leading scholar in the nation on copyright law."

The Outstanding Young Scholars Award is given out annually by Sponsored Programs And Research.

The award, which includes \$2,000 in cash and an additional \$1,000 research account, is given to young faculty members who have excelled in their academic accomplishments.

When Rentner informed Ekstrand she had received the award, Ekstrand was shocked.

"I was mostly surprised. There is a lot of good competition on this campus," Ekstrand said.

The award was not only an honor for Ekstrand, but for the entire journalism department.

In the 11-year history of the Outstanding Young Scholars Award, Ekstrand is the first person rewarded for her research in the field of journalism.

Ekstrand said she plans to put

Ekstrand's Accomplishments

- Former director of corporate communications for The Associated Press
- Head of the department's public relations sequence
- Has had her work published in several journals, including "Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly"

the prize money from her research account toward a laptop so she can work on her studies from home.

And as for the \$2,000 cash award she received?

"Lunch with my students; a pizza party for my journalism classes," Ekstrand said. "It's nice to be able to share good news with other people."

by Angie Burdge, '11

Rentner earns top honors

The awards just keep getting better for Terry Rentner.

At a spring luncheon, Rentner, journalism department chair, was honored with a lifetime achievement award by faculty senate.

"Terry is passionate in her dedication to BGSU and as an institution and to the journalism program," associate professor Tori Ekstrand wrote in support of Rentner's nomination. "She has worked constantly to encourage faculty and student development and to support our own research programs. Terry has been a true professional and a positive force for the department and the field."

This is not the first recognition at BGSU for this dedicated professional. She was awarded the Chairs and Directors Leadership Award in 2007 and the College Faculty Excellence Award in 1996. Last year, President Sidney Ribeau appointed her to the BGSU 2010 Centennial Committee. She is chairing the marketing/PR committee.

Rentner began teaching at the university in 1987, served as head of the public relations sequence in the department from 1992-2004 and became chair of journalism in 2004.

Faculty members in the School of Communication Studies recently selected her as the school's director when Oliver Boyd-Barrett steps down to return to teaching and research.

She has been a member of the Public Relations Society of America for over 20 years and is the adviser to the BGSU chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America, which she has helped with the award-winning DEBUNKIFY tobacco myth campaign, as well as the Do It Now campaign to increase registration of organ donors.

Rentner graduated from BGSU with a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1982, a master's degree in mass communication in 1988 and a doctorate in sociology in 1995.

photo by Brad Phalin, '89



Taylor selected for GLIPA Hall of Fame

With her enthusiastic approach and professional style, her constant drive to excel and her extensive journalism experience, instructor Kelly Taylor was inducted into the Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association Hall of Fame on Oct. 3.

Taylor was nominated by Steve Dufrane, a Jostens yearbook representative in the northwest Ohio area since 1984. Dufrane met Taylor when she worked as the yearbook adviser for McAuley High School and has followed her career ever since.



kelly
taylor

instructor;
Great Lakes
Interscholastic Press
Association hall of
fame recipient

Taylor conducts workshops for Dufrane each year. "She presents material in a likable, enthusiastic way," he said. "She is always professional and she

doesn't talk down to kids." Dufrane said schools always request she come back the next year.

"Her knowledge of the subject matter and passion to constantly improve her skills proves her worth as a journalism professional," Dufrane said.

Julie Horger, a former student and GLIPA board member, introduced

Taylor at the induction ceremony. "Kelly also reaches out to student publications by serving as a leader with GLIPA, spending many years as its secretary and always serving as an outspoken proponent for anything that will push student publications in the area to continue to thrive and improve," Horger said.

The GLIPA members are not the only people that have felt the positive effects of Taylor's work. She worked as a teacher/adviser for McAuley High School, and Southview High School for nine years before becoming a full-time instructor at BGSU in 1998.

She teaches four classes, oversees production of the alumni newsletter, participates in the newly formed Ohio Scholastic Media Association and volunteers with her church's newsletter writing articles, shooting pictures and designing pages.

She was a finalist this year for a Distinguished Instructor Award in the College of Arts and Sciences.

With all of her experience it is difficult for Taylor to choose just one moment as the absolute highlight, but admits that her induction into the Hall of Fame is at the top of her list.

"Personally and professionally, it's a highlight," Taylor said. "It's wonderful to be recognized for years of dedication and service."

She is certainly not the only person who feels she has made a huge contribution to the GLIPA program and her students.

Tom Taylor, Kelly's husband, says his wife easily spends at least twice as much time out of the classroom as she does inside.

One of the Taylors' Maumee neighbors has commented numerous times on Kelly's level of dedication, noting that he sees her awake at 4 a.m. when he leaves for work.

Taylor's husband and son, Kyle, attended the ceremony. "To see how her associates on the board felt about her was neat. They recognized her value, and I see it in her everyday," her husband said. "She's a valued asset to the university [...] at the same time, she's a great mom!"

Dufrane echoed that sentiment. "She can juggle a lot of things," Dufrane said. "She's talented in a lot of areas, and she still takes good care of her family. There aren't a lot of people out there with her gifts."

by Katie McCarthy, '09

faculty news in brief—

Grant brings BG, Tunisian students together to learn

Appointment to council

Kathy Bradshaw is representing the American Journalism Historians Association on the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

This is the first year that AJHA will be represented, and Bradshaw fills a three-year term.

ACEJMC evaluates journalism and mass communications programs at universities, and it makes all final accrediting decisions.

BGSU is one of 111 accredited programs. Accreditation is a voluntary self-assessment and external review in which the performance of a journalism and mass communication program is measured against national standards.

At BGSU, Bradshaw teaches broadcast journalism classes, advises BF-24 News and heads the broadcast sequence.

Internet expertise shared

Jim Foust took his experience on the road.

In the fall, Foust, an associate professor and author of one of the most popular online journalism textbooks, appeared on PBS and gave two professional workshops.

On Oct. 24, Foust was one of two guests on "Deadline Now," a WTVG program hosted by Jack Lessenberry. The other guest was Sandra Svoboda, writer for the Detroit Metro Times.

Foust taught a one-day class on Flash technology in October for Ohio Newspaper Association, and in September, October and November he made three trips to Western Kentucky University to do day-long digital/convergence workshops for their faculty.

Frank Deaner, executive director of ONA, said the professionals who attended the Flash workshop liked the pace and thought everything was very well explained.

2 teaching award finalists

Journalism had two of three finalists for BGSU's College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Instructor award for 2007-08.

They were Julie Hagenbuch, whose specialization is public relations, and Kelly Taylor, whose focus is print and design.

The selection committee chose Philip Dickinson in English for the award, but noted that it was difficult to choose among three such strong nominations.

This fall BGSU faculty members received \$388,893 through the Fulbright-Hayes Act to continue their relationship with two North African universities.

The grant will fund a three-year program dedicated to an exchange of information and ideas on the topics of journalism and the environment.

"This program is about bringing together people here and people there who have similar interests," project director Catherine Cassara-Jemai said.

The universities participating with BGSU are the Institut de Presse et des Sciences de l'Information of the Universite of Manouba and the University of Algeria.

The collaboration will give BG students a different perspective on global mass media.

Over the course of three years, the program will compare global communication, world media, and media coverage of the environment. The Tunisian students will learn about American media while BGSU students learn about world media and environment coverage, Cassara-Jemai said.

This summer at BGSU eight BG students and eight Tunisian students, accompanied by two Tunisian professors, will participate in an intensive three-week course.

The three credit hour class will deal with international media and public affairs reporting and focus on environmental coverage.

"The program will increase our own knowledge in journalism and environment and how the media participate in these topics," associate professor Nancy Brendlinger said. Brendlinger went with Cassara-Jemai and others to Tunisia in March.

Exchanging ideas and gaining knowledge is the main theme of this partnership. "The more professors learn, the more that ends up in their classroom," Cassara-Jemai said.

by Molly Maykut, '09

Spirek presents at opening of Ball State's Letterman building

Associate Professor Melissa Spirek was a panelist at the opening of Ball State University's David Letterman Communication and Media building in September. The building was dedicated to Ball State alumnus David Letterman for his many years of contributions to the school.

"I was looking to bridge communications, telecommunications and journalism," Jacquelyn Buckrop, assistant dean at Ball State, said. "Dr. Spirek is great at that and represents all areas of the discipline extremely well."

As a panelist Spirek presented a program called "Top 10 Reasons Why the Letterman Building will lead Multimedia Higher Education."

"Dr. Spirek presented an informative but humorous look at the state of the journalism field by using the 'Top 10 List' since David Letterman [was the] guest of the day," Terry Rentner, journalism chair, said.



Melissa Spirek, associate professor at BGSU, speaks at the opening of Ball State's new Letterman Communication and Media building.

by Natalie Sliwa, '09

Writing History

Bissland tells story of Ohioans' role in the Civil War

Love, War and the Buckeye State. These three topics are only a glimpse at what lies behind the cover of James Bissland's newest book, "Blood, Tears, and Glory."

Bissland, a retired journalism professor, said he has always been interested in history and storytelling. "I've always been a storyteller by nature," he said.

In this book, he mixes his love for both.

"Blood, Tears, and Glory" centers on the U.S. Civil War, but what sets this book apart is its focus on Ohio's crucial role in the war. During the Civil War, 35,000 men from Ohio died.

"Ohio is absolutely pivotal in the outcome," he said.

Unlike other Civil War books, Bissland's book blends historical facts with human interest.

"The book really isn't about the Civil War as it is about people in that time," he said. "I tried to write it so both men and women would enjoy it."

Since the book was released, Bissland has done roughly a dozen signings and appearances, and he has another dozen or so scheduled.

Because of the teacher in him, Bissland prefers the appearances that are lecture-oriented. "When you taught for 20 years, you know how to fill time," he said.

Bissland's favorite venues are those with historical societies because they are interested in the fine details. "I like appearances and signings when people ask questions," he said.

The American Civil War Museum of Ohio in Bowling Green hosted Bissland's kick-off for the book on Oct. 9. About seventy-five people came to buy the book and hear him speak for one hour.

"People come in specifically to buy the book," Mark

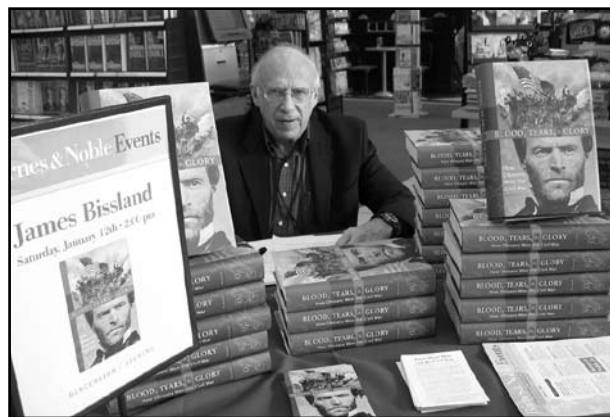


photo by Kelly Taylor

James Bissland signs copies of his book, "Blood, Tears, and Glory," on Jan. 12 at The Shops at Fallen Timbers Barnes and Noble bookstore.

Young, president of the American Civil War Museum of Ohio, said.

Young found Bissland's mix of history and human-interest intriguing. "It's always interesting when you talk about people," Young said.

"People in the war were human beings just like us," Bissland said. "Stories resonate in a way that facts don't."

On Jan. 12, Bissland did a book signing at the Barnes and Noble in Maumee. This signing coincided with the store's theme of Local History Month.

John Calgie, a member of the Greater Toledo Civil War Roundtable, was at Barnes and Noble and asked Bissland to sign a book for him. "I thoroughly enjoyed the book," Calgie said.

The book has sold well. "We've had really good feedback," Stephanie Hinamon, community relations manager of Barnes and Noble at the Shops of Fallen Timbers, said.

by Tamara Callejas, '09

UPDATE ON RETIRED FACULTY

Emil Dansker stays active working with the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists as a representative on the Communications Board overseeing the News-Record. He is on a committee working on the history of all forms of transportation in the area as well as the development of the program of the Cincinnati Aviation Heritage Society.

This fall he expects to teach a class at Union College called The Great-

est Show on Earth: From the Smoke Filled Room to the Pep Rally, in which he will discuss the 16 national political conventions he attended and his work with the National Conventions Project. The NCP was developed with another former BGSU faculty member, William C. Spragens, who taught political science.

Hal Fisher went to Salem, Ore., after his retirement in 1993 to be near his daughter's family. There he has edited his Presbytery's newsletter,

Ominibus, for five years and served as pulpit supply in a number of churches. Meantime, he said, "We're slowing down!"

James R. Gordon '56, who was head of the photojournalism sequence from 1966 to 1991, when he retired from teaching, had a second retirement in 2003 after editing the National Press Photographers Association's News Photographer magazine for 25 years.

see RETIRED FACULTY, Page 15

Novels part of new look to introductory course

The introductory journalism class, Journalism 100, has a new look this year thanks to two journalism professors and a Pulitzer Prize winning book.

After teaching the course several times, Tori Ekstrand and Melissa Spirek decided that the introductory level course was missing something.

"Dr. Spirek and I didn't feel people were walking away from the class with the level of understanding or appreciation for the field that we wanted," Ekstrand said. "Dr. Spirek started the change by introducing a new text into the course and getting rid of the dreaded intro to journalism textbook we had been using."

Now, students learn through the book "Tiger Force."

"Tiger Force" written by former [Toledo] Blade reporters Michael Sallah and Mitch Weiss is the story of their investigative reporting success in uncovering crimes committed by

a group of elite U.S. army soldiers during the Vietnam War.

"'Tiger Force' inspires me and I hope the students connect with some dimension of [the reporters'] lives," Spirek said.

Jennifer Irving took J100 in the fall with Ekstrand. "I really liked reading the book," she said. "It showed how journalists keep going and going until they get their story."

Besides "Tiger Force," students also choose from a short list of other novels to read and discuss.

Angie Burdge, another student in Ekstrand's class, chose "State of Denial" by Bob Woodward. "It was kind of long, but I'm glad I chose it because it really showed me why we're in Iraq," Burdge said.

But can these novels do better than an all inclusive journalism textbook?

"I found my students to be more sophisticated and more interested when I use these books as compared

to a standard textbook," Spirek said.

Ekstrand believes students respond well to narrative because they often more easily remember what they read.

"I had considered changing my major, but taking Journalism 100 helped me to decide that I definitely wanted to keep pursuing my degree in journalism," Burdge said.

The new look has also helped to reshape both professors' attitudes.

"It is very thrilling for an entry level professor to find herself engaging students who otherwise wouldn't care about the class," Ekstrand said.

Spirek said, "The students are increasingly responsible for their learning. My class used to be an orchestra with me being the conductor. We are now a jazz ensemble, and the music is quite different with all contributing."

by Kylie Korsnack, '09

Recent grad talks to classes

Colette Neirouz, a 2004 graduate, spoke to classes about her life experiences as a recent college graduate.

Neirouz is the coordinating producer for Kirk Documentary Group — a small independent film production company based out of Boston that mainly produces for FRONTLINE on PBS.

The Kirk Group recently won a George Foster Peabody Award, one of the highest honors in journalism, for the film "Cheney's Law," which aired last fall.

A native of Cincinnati, Neirouz worked at BG-24 News, BGNews and WBGU while at the university. It was at WBGU that Neirouz was introduced to the public affairs series FRONTLINE. "I just had to work for them," she said.

Neirouz did an internship with FRONTLINE's post-production unit in January 2004 and through that met Michael Kirk, head of KDG, who hired her as a production assistant following her internship. A year ago she was promoted to coordinating producer.

"I do everything!" Neirouz said. "I'm the center of our small company...I manage the company, I maintain the production schedule and help complete our budgets. I also manage our production—from film shoots, to the edit schedule, to post-production. I love it!"

Neirouz returned to BGSU at the invitation of her former adviser, Katherine Bradshaw. "I had such a wonderful experience at BGSU," Neirouz said. "I felt like this was a way for me to give back. It was my way of saying thank you, and letting the university, professors and students know that my time at BG was important, and I appreciate how much everything and everyone influenced me to become successful in my career."

"She's a really kind person," Bradshaw said. "She cares about the journalism students at BGSU. She has the kind of personality that can effectively communicate the connection between class work, internships and career success."

"It is important to have alumni speakers, especially those who have been out for only a couple of years so that students can see the paths to successful careers."

by Brin Emerson, '10



colette
neirouz

2004 graduate,
coordinating
producer at Kirk
Documentary
Group, FRONTLINE

NYT sports reporter shares her experience

New York Times sports reporter, Lynn Zinser, was the speaker for the 2007 Florence and Jesse Currier Lecture held on Sept. 25.

During her lecture, "Beyond the Fighting Dogs and Attack Blogs: Practicing Real Sports Journalism in the New Media World," Zinser spoke about experiences.

Tori Ekstrand, who organized Zinser's appearance, referred to her as a glass-ceiling breaker, especially at The New York Times.

Jackie Giammara, a Currier scholar, was one of 10 students who had breakfast with Zinser.

"One of the points she hit on was the immense deadline pressure in the business and how working with athletes sometimes made that pressure even more intense," Giammara said.

Giammara felt that Zinser offered a positive message for women who received many criticisms for wanting to cover sports in the media.

by Andrea Assion, '09

REUNION ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY, OCT 13

- Live Newscast
by alumni and
current members
- Casual Social

SATURDAY, OCT 14

- Discussions and
Workshops
- Silent Auction
- Banquet
- Video Segments
featuring history
and bloopers video

BG-24 Reunion

Dr. Laurence Jankowski

Circle Photo: Kevin Tennant



Amy Zanica (guest), Ryan Fowler



Ted Siller, Dan Spehler



Tiffany Tarpley, Erika Smith



Allison Brown, Bridget Tharp, Rebecca Baldwin

15
years ago

It all started in the basement of West Hall. Bob Jones and Chris Hursh had the idea for a student-run newscast.

They got professor Laurence Jankowski involved and with a \$500 budget set about starting a newscast.

In October, students and alumni of the now 15-year-old BG-24 News celebrated their humble start and many success stories.

Rumor had it that Jankowski, who is now living in Colorado doing documentary work, started taping the newscasts with his own camera. He denied this, but said that money was found whenever it was needed and that many people pitched in during the very beginning.

The first airing was 15 minutes and Jones served as anchor. Jones, now a reporter for WEWS-TV in Cleveland, said, "I looked terrified, I'll tell you that much."

He remembered that the scripts were hand written on computer paper that was taped together and put into the teleprompter.

The newscast grew through its ties to local affiliates. The first studio set was supplied by Channel 11 News, and like today, WBGU ran the show on its public access channel during the week.

BG-24 serves as a training vehicle. Jones credits BG-24 for giving him an advantage for his career and acquainting him with "real life daily pressures" of the news business.

"So it seems the proof was in the pudding" for the BG-24 News, Jankowski said. "Fifteen years later: if it wasn't good, it would have disappeared by now."

by Anne D'Amico '09

PR internship took MacBride to London

PURSuing THEIR dreams

Ryan MacBride used the University of Dreams, an online company that helps college students find jobs and internships, to secure an internship last summer working with Public Eye Communications, an actors' publicist agency located outside of London, England.

"We deal with clients on a personal level everyday, so our interns must be polite, helpful and able to pick things up with no explanations and no hesitation," Romilly Bowlby, one of MacBride's supervisors at Public Eye, said. "Ryan more than fulfilled all this criteria."

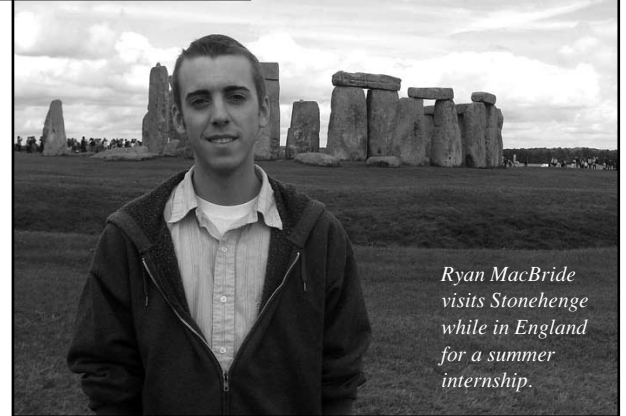
MacBride's daily duties at Public Eye included picking up what MacBride described as a giant stack of newspapers and looking through them for news about a client. If he found something, he would cut it out, photocopy it and send it to the client's agent.

He also answered the phone and got milk for the office. "They drank tea all day long," MacBride said.

About the experience, MacBride said, "You need to be open-minded and realize that it is going to involve a lot of busy work. You need to work so hard that they can't imagine not having you in the office."

MacBride didn't spend all his time in the office. He attended a photo shoot for actress Helen McCrory, an ABC press junket and movie screenings of Jane Austen's "Book Club" and "Atonement."

"It was kind of, like, surreal," MacBride said. "I had no idea I would get into that."



Ryan MacBride visits Stonehenge while in England for a summer internship.

The internship provided MacBride with a unique insight into the business of public relations. "You see celebrities every day but you don't see how many people it takes to get them into the media," MacBride said.

The internship also provided MacBride with a job spring semester as a campus marketing intern for the University of Dreams company.

"He was friendly and efficient and always eager to learn and ready to do the most mundane of jobs when we needed him to," Bowlby said. "Ryan MacBride was one of the most delightful interns we have ever had the pleasure of having in the office."

by Erin Ingram, '09

Jones spent summer in Washington at Kiplinger magazine

Candice Jones, a senior print major from Tipp City, Ohio, received one of the most prestigious journalism internships in the nation this past summer through The American Society of Magazine Editors.

Nearly 200 applicants vie for 35 intern positions at various magazines.

Nancy Brendlinger, associate professor, oversees the application process. She said the process is very competitive, and because BGSU does not have a magazine program, only one student may apply.

In the past three years BGSU has had only one

other journalism student to receive the internship.

"Dr. Brendlinger reminded me not to get my hopes up," Jones said.

All of the resumes for the applicants are pretty similar, Brendlinger said, so a lot of emphasis is put on an essay portion.

"Candice loves words and writing," Brendlinger said. "She really cares about the product, people and the world."

This attention to style and creativity stems mostly from Jones' second major of creative writing.

"I am very attentive to the writing," Jones said. "I

am more laid back than most journalists."

Jones was placed at Kiplinger Personal Finance Magazine in Washington, D.C.

"The editors were really good to me," Jones said. "My responsibilities were mostly fact checking, and I also got a chance to work on slide shows for the Web site."

Jones said the experience was extra enjoyable because the editors really trusted that she could do things. They did not treat her as an intern, but rather as an employee of the magazine.

"The best part about the experience, besides the great contacts, was living in D.C. because I had never lived so far from home," Jones said. "It was the ultimate lesson in independence."

Jones said her dream job is more closely related to her minor in environmental policy.

"My dream job is to write for National Wildlife's 'Ranger Rick,'" she said.

Jones was a Currier scholar, senior editor for the BG News and active in the student chapter of SPJ.

by Andrea Volle, '08

In the **DRIVER'S SEAT**



PRSSA takes the lead on several projects

Cigarettes, organ donation and a convention resulted in valuable experience for the BGSU chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

While gaining career related experience, PRSSA members strove to change attitudes on campus.

During the 2007-2008 school year the student group focused its attention on two major projects: DEBUNKIFY and Do It Now. They also attended the society's international convention in Philadelphia.

DEBUNKIFY

For the past two years PRSSA has competed in the state-wide anti-smoking campaign associated with DEBUNKIFY, which strives to change attitudes toward smoking.

This year PRSSA members competed with their new campaign slogan of "model the majority" to correct the misconception that most BGSU students smoke.

"This year had a bit of a different spin on it," Cassie Siler, account

executive, said. "Last year, it was just an overall awareness campaign. This year it dove into the more surrounding issues of why people use it."

The competition was in Cincinnati. Over a two-day period in early May, 14 schools presented their findings to judges from the PR agency Northlich and the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation.

The first place organization was awarded \$1,000, along with interviews for an internship at Northlich for each group member. The results of the competition were not available at press time.

Three students from BGSU presented the findings: Siler, Calvin Walker and Julie Frase.

In last year's competition BGSU received first place in research and second place overall out of eight competitors. BGSU was three points shy of first place, but beat the third place team by 40 points. The team received a first place trophy for Outstanding Research for the project, which is displayed in West Hall.

DO IT NOW

PRSSA was also involved in Do It Now, a campaign to increase the number of registered organ and tissue donors.

Along with 13 other universities in Ohio, BGSU students had the goal of signing up new organ donors.

Although BGSU's target was to sign 5,100 donors, each university had a different target based on its school population.

During the celebration of the city's birthday, Do It Now had a booth at the Woodland Mall to spread information.

They also sponsored BGSU Organ and Tissue Donation Week from Feb. 19-23, where they gave away free t-shirts to those who signed up to be organ donors.

"We got about 20 people to sign up, but more importantly, our message was reached by a lot of people," Jason Rentner, PRSSA member, said. "We hope this will change attitudes about organ donation."

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Ten members of PRSSA attended the Public Relations Society of America International Convention on Oct. 20-23.

Some of the keynote speakers were actress and humanitarian activist Mia Farrow and "Meet the Press" moderator Tim Russert.

Additionally, the members participated in team building activities while networking with both PR professionals and other PRSSA groups. "We learned how other chapters run and were able to take advice from our peers as well as professionals in the field," Sara Newell, the PRSSA fundraising chair, said.

by Amanda Jackson, '09



On the steps of the Education Building, Meredith Whitsel and Cassie Siler, members of the Public Relations Student Society of America hand out t-shirts as part of Kick Butts day.

Laurence Jankowski resides in Colorado, where he is producing educational television shows.

Jankowski just finished two documentaries, "Gold" and "Gold in Colorado," that are part of a larger geology series he is working on.

Jankowski also produced a program on the national landmark located about two miles from his residence. The video is shown to schoolchildren before they come to visit the site.

Ray Laakaniemi is now in Mayer, Minn., 40 miles west of the Twin Cities. His wife, Karen, has retired from her midwifery, and his son Brian will be stationed in Crete for a year as a flight surgeon starting in June.

months: preparing for his trip to Brazil that summer.

Moser said he was shocked when he found out he had won. "I felt like I got called from the audience from the 'Price is Right,'" Moser said.

Roughly 13 of the 70 applicants for the fellowship were selected to travel abroad. At 22, Moser was the youngest recipient.

While Moser was surprised that he had won, many of his BGSU advisers and professors were not when they had found out about his award. "It didn't surprise me in the least. It reaffirms what I know of him," said Bob Bortel, adviser to student publications where Moser was once editor-in-chief.

"Bob had a thirst for more experience," Bortel said.

"It's great for him and his development," said Nancy Brendlinger, associate professor of journalism.

Despite the challenges it posed, Brazil has definitely made a mark on Moser. This summer, Moser plans to move to Brazil.

Taking advantage of every opportunity is something Moser has quite a bit of experience with. He often took it upon himself to report on the stories that did not appeal to others.

Moser credits a lot of his success to the faculty members, yet those same faculty members say that Moser was an exceptional student.

"Bob had a strong desire to make a difference," Bortel said.

by Laura DeLucia, '09

'The least I could do ...'

"Creating a scholarship was important to me because I had such an amazing experience at BGSU and had such phenomenal mentors. I felt it was the least I could do, and I would encourage my peers to do the same."

Nicole Valek '02



RAISED in the Cleveland suburb of North Royalton, Nicole Valek chose BGSU for her journalism education with a double minor in marketing and interpersonal Communication. Vice-president of the Public Relations Student Society of America, Valek also was on the staff of *The BG News*, a member of the dance team, and a participant in the university's largest fund raiser, "Dance Marathon." With a 3.9 gpa, she is a *summa cum laude* graduate of BGSU.

Based in Memphis, Tenn., Valek is a regional trainer and product sales specialist for DePuy Mitek, a firm partnering with the Johnson & Johnson company. She manages a customer base of more than 200 orthopedic surgeons and rheumatologists.

After earning a master's in business administration at the University of Findlay, Valek now is working on a doctorate in organization and management.

Her contributions for scholarships have been matched by her employers.

■ Nicole Valek is on the planning committee for the BGSU Young Alumni Gathering at Homecoming. "We are trying to recruit more alumni and students to attend some of our Homecoming events," she said. "We also encourage students to be active alumni members in the BGSU community after graduation."

SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS

Students learn about investigative reporting

Investigative journalists dream of finding a big story, a story that makes history.

Students in BGSU's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists heard two journalists who changed history at the national convention in Washington, D.C.

Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein spoke about the story they uncovered 35 years ago, Watergate, as well as the movie "All the President's Men."

Terry Rentner, chair of the department who also attended, said, "All the students were running to get front row seats."

Woodward and Bernstein outlined how they uncovered the scandal and the key moments during their investigation, including phone conversations they had with each other. The two traced the history

of Watergate and how it affected their careers.

"It was huge," sophomore Christie Kerner said. "That was the big thing. Investigative reporting at its best."

Junior Alison Kemp remembers thinking, "This is so cool to be in a room with them."

The key speakers were accompanied by Washington Post's Ben Bradlee, author Alicia Shepard, National Public Radio's Daniel Schorr, and Information Trust Executive Director Scott Armstrong. Bob Schieffer from "CBS News" moderated.

The three-day conference provided students with opportunities to learn about current issues, share ideas concerning stories and journalistic writing and make professional contacts.

by Caitlin Bernardo, '09

Contribution

Choices for your gifts to Journalism at BGSU®

Enclosed is my gift of:

☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$_____

I would like my gift to be used for:

- ☐ Dennis Hale Memorial Scholarship 30-001854
- ☐ Canary Scholarship* 30-000165
- ☐ Currier Scholarship* 30-000300
- ☐ Finney (GLIPA) Scholarship* 30-000235
- ☐ Fisher Scholarship* 30-000203
- ☐ Goodman Scholarship 30-000986
- ☐ Gordon Scholarship* 30-000472
- ☐ Murray Scholarship* 30-000796
- ☐ Walker Scholarship* 30-001171
- ☐ Alumni Board Scholarship* 30-0001686
- ☐ Press Club Scholarship* 30-000322
- ☐ Annual School of Comm. Studies Awards or projects in the Journalism Department* 30-000502
- ☐ I would like to create a new scholarship
- ☐ I will arrange for my company to match this gift.

* Endowed scholarships

- ☐ Check enclosed. Payable to BGSU Foundation, Inc.
- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Exp.

Account # _____

Signature _____

Exp. _____ Class of _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

E-mail address _____

Daytime Phone _____

Mail Contributions to:

Dr. Terry Rentner
302 West Hall
BGSU
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0237

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1
Bowling Green, Ohio

ALUMNI
Newsletter

Department of Journalism
Bowling Green State University
302 West Hall
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0237
419.372.8349